

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
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R 131634Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO USMISSION NATO
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1702
SECDEF WASHDC
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 6805

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MORG, NATO, SP
SUBJECT: SPANISH PARTICIPATION IN EXERCISE "VISITEX '77"

1. SPANISH PRESS TODAY CARRIES A REPORT, DATELINE OSTENDE,
THAT EIGHT SHIPS OF THE SPANISH NAVY ARE PARTICIPATING WITH
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BELGIAN, DUTCH AND FRENCH UNITS IN THE MINESWEEPING
EXERCISE VISITEX '77 BETWEEN 12 AND 23 SEPTEMBER IN THE
NORTH SEA. THIS IS A SIGNIFICANT BREAKTHROUGH IN TERMS
OF SPANISH MILITARY PARTICIPATION IN EXERCISES WITH
THE NATO ALLIES.

2. WE HAD UNDERSTOOD EARLIER THAT SOME CONSIDERATION

WAS BEING GIVEN ALSO TO STANAVFORCHAN PARTICIPATION
IN THIS BELGIAN NATIONAL EXERCISE AND THAT THE
BELGIANS HAD ASKED IN BRUSSELS FOR AGREEMENT TO THE
RELEASE OF A NUMBER OF NATO DOCUMENTS TO THE SPANISH
IN CONNECTION WITH THE EXERCISE.

3. IN VIEW OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS DEVELOPMENT TO
EFFORTS TO PROMOTE SPANISH INTEREST IN THE ALLIANCE,
IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO US TO HAVE ADDITIONAL DETAILS
CONCERNING THE ARRANGEMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE AND
ANY REACTIONS TO THE SPANISH PARTICIPATION WHICH MAY
DEVELOP IN ALLIED CAPITALS. EATON

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Message Attributes

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